

William Koranda

From: William Koranda [bkoranda@rexcon.com]
Sent: Thursday, January 24, 2002 11:36 AM
To: 'www.microsoft.atr@usdoj.gov'
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

To Whom It May Concern:

Consumers are absolutely sick and tired of this extended lawsuit lead by the DOJ. This past Tuesday AOL files another suit against Microsoft. How timely? No, the real question should be, how disturbing? AOL appears to be have issued a calculated offensive to undermine the Microsoft settlement.

Although the current AOL lawsuit has not played itself out, simply review some of the overriding external evidence. AOL purchased Netscape for \$10 billion in the midst of the DOJ trial, even after hearing concrete evidence that Microsoft's Internet Explorer's success in the market was based upon merit, not market share!!! This latest AOL move appears to be an another attempt by AOL to once again retreat from the rigors of competition to the safer confines of the courtroom, where the AOL is clearly more comfortable.

Microsoft has tried consistently to work more closely with AOL in a variety of areas, including improvement of instant messaging interoperability, getting fair and open access to AOL's dominant cable assets and partnering on technology standards which are key to developing future innovative technologies. These are examples of what we everyone (DOJ, AOL, Microsoft, etc.) should be working on - i.e. what's best for the consumer and the economy.

AOL has repeatedly rebuffed Microsoft's efforts, to the detriment of consumers and the technology industry, and has turned to politics and litigation instead. But more litigation is the last thing consumers and the industry need. AOL and Microsoft need to focus on market competition and technical cooperation that will make consumers' computing experience easier, not spend further time and resources in the nation's courtrooms.

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TOTAL

MTC-00031990_0001